

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL**
SECURITY INFORMATION
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY Hungary
SUBJECT The Rakosi-Mavek Steel Plant and Its
Utility Airfield

PLACE ACQUIRED 50X1

DATE ACQUIRED BY SOURCE 50X1

DATE OF INFORMATION

DATE DISTR. 27 Oct 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

50X1

50X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

Rakosi-Mavek

1. The Weiss-Manfred Steel Factory at Csepel, now named Rakosi-Mavek is an exceptionally large producer of steel products. Csepel is five miles south of Budapest on the northern tip of Csepel Island. In 1945 this plant was able to produce light rails of two sizes for Hungary's secondary railways.
2. there were no open hearths at the steel mill. Ingots were hauled from Diosgyor to Csepel where they were melted down for processing. The steel mill used Bessemer and blast processes. It was equipped with two electrical furnaces.
3. During World War II Csepel was heavily bombed with about 50% of the plant damaged and destroyed. I have heard that it has been rebuilt and operating at 100% capacity.
4. In my estimation Rakosi -Mavek is one of the most important industrial installations in Hungary. The Hungarian State relied to a great extent upon Rakosi-Mavek for many of its metal products.
5. I believe it is the largest producer of sheet metal in the country. It produced sheet metal up to three mm in thickness and steel plates up to 10 mm in thickness. In Hungary, source states that metal up to three mm was called sheet metal and that anything from three mm to 10 mm was referred to as steel plates.
6. Among the many items manufactured that rails, pipe and tubing were made in large amounts. Production figures were not known to source. With reference to pipe, steel and cast iron pipe was produced. They also made some types of seamless pipe.

LAST PAGE FOR SUBJECT & AREA COD

CLASSIFICATION **CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION**

DISTRIBUTION

ORR EV

50X1

- 2 -

7. During World War II Rakosi-Mivek turned out a number of items for the Army - among which were both Diesel and gasoline motors, light Panther tanks and airplanes. The airplanes which were produced under German direction were light trainers. (I believe some planes are made there now)

50X1

8. In 1949 the personnel engaged in operating the Rakosi-Mivek plant was about 14 thousand. I heard that the manufacture of tin cans and cookery ware (steel coated with aluminum) was enlarged by 1949. In fact, there is only one other factory in Hungary which makes tin cans for food. It is located at Pestszenterzsebet /five miles southeast of Budapest/.

Airfield/Airplane Assembly/Camouflage

1. South of the steel plant is a large concrete air strip. This strip was used by the Germans during World War II. The Germans used Rakosi-Mivek to assemble Messerschmitts and Heinkels in 1945. The runway was approximately 1800 meters. With parking strips, the field covered approximately four square kilometers.
2. Winds are very heavy at this field and can be considered as constant for most of the year. The general direction of winds is to the northeast. Twice a year the direction of the winds change. In the early spring and in the fall (September) these winds change and blow from east to west.
3. This field didn't have many facilities, but was used primarily as an adjunct to the Csepel plant which made the trainers and assembled the previously mentioned German fighters. 60 fighters parked on the field at one time in 1945. Facilities included hangars which could cover twenty fighters. These hangars consisted of eight large doubles and two small singles. The hangars were damaged by air raids during World War II. (I have heard that the strip is intact and useable. I don't know the present status of this field)
4. Perhaps of most importance is the fact that directly south of this air strip is a large forested area. During World War II, the Germans were successful in camouflaging the forested area where they hid large numbers of fighter planes. This area was never bombed during World War II.

- end -

LIBRARY SUBJECTS AND CODES

740.1 37M

733.92 37M

733.95 37M

733.972 37M

745.54 37M

757.4 37M

451 37M

CONFIDENTIAL/SECURITY INFORMATION